

# Divorce & Remarriage – “But I Say To You...”

## Introduction:

- A. The context of *Matthew 5:31-32* – one part of a pattern.
  - 1. *Matthew 5:21-22* – anger and murder.
  - 2. *Matthew 5:27-28* – lust and adultery.
  - 3. *Matthew 5:38-39* – retaliation and restraint.
  - 4. *Matthew 5:43-44* – selfish and selfless love.
- B. The purpose? To draw a contrast between two different standards of righteousness.
- C. Jesus confronts some of the common conceptions people had grown to accept.
- D. Throughout this series of contrasts, Jesus seeks to get at the **heart** of sin.

## I. “It Has Been Said...”

- A. *Matthew 5:31* – a Pharasaic distortion of *Deuteronomy 24:1-4*.
  - 1. The “school of Shammai” –
  - 2. The “school of Hillel” –
- B. Perhaps this is the background of what we read in *Matthew 19*.

## II. “But I Say To You...”

- A. *Matthew 5:31-32* – Jesus takes the matter from the realm of paperwork back to the heart.
- B. *Matthew 19:3-9* – Jesus goes beyond the Law of Moses, back to God’s original intention.
- C. *Deuteronomy 24* and *Matthew 5* and *Matthew 19* do not conflict!
- D. Maintaining the divine order in such passages makes a great deal of difference.
  - 1. Excellent example is found in *Mark 16:16*.
  - 2. So also in *Matthew 19:9*.